

Serial No: 10/064,374

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated August 31, 2004. In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5, 6, 10, 12 and 16 were objected to, claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC §102, and claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10-13 and 16 were indicated as allowable. By this Amendment, claims 3, 4, 6, 10, 12 and 16 are amended, and claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 17 are cancelled. Currently pending claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10-13 and 16 are believed allowable, with claims 3, 4, 6, 10, 12 and 16 being independent claims.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:Claim 3:

Claim 3 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Office Action, paragraph 6. By this amendment, claim 3 is rewritten independent form to include all the limitations of claims 1 and 2, which claim 3 originally incorporated by reference, with minor modifications to address the objections to claims 1, 2 and 3. Furthermore, amendment to claim 3 is not made to overcome the cited art or for reasons of patentability since claim 3 is merely a new recitation making explicit what was previously incorporated by reference to claims 1 and 2. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 3 is believed allowable.

Claim 4:

Claim 4 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Office Action, paragraph 6. By this amendment, claim 4 is rewritten independent form to include all the limitations of claim 1, which claim 4 originally incorporated by reference, with minor modifications to address the objections to claims 1 and 4. Furthermore, amendment to claim 4 is not made to overcome the cited art or for reasons of patentability since claim 4 is merely a new recitation making explicit what was previously incorporated by reference to claim 1. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 4 is believed allowable.

Claim 6:

Claim 6 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the vase claim and any intervening

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claims. Office Action, paragraph 6. By this amendment, claim 6 is rewritten independent form to include all the limitations of claim 5, which claim 6 originally incorporated by reference, with minor modifications to address the objections to claims 5 and 6. Furthermore, amendment to claim 6 is not made to overcome the cited art or for reasons of patentability since claim 6 is merely a new recitation making explicit what was previously incorporated by reference to claim 5. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 6 is believed allowable.

Claims 10-13 and 16:

Claims 10-13 and 16 were indicated as allowed. Office Action, paragraph 5. By this amendment, claims 10 and 16 are amended to address the objections in the Office Action. See Office Action, paragraph 2e, page 3. Amendments to claims 10 and 16 are not made to overcome the cited art or for reasons of patentability.

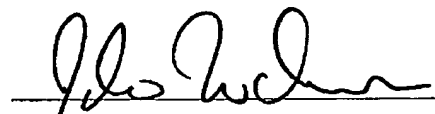
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the forgoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this case is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain at issue that the Examiner feels could best be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to contact the attorney below.

No fee is believed due with this Amendment, however, should a fee be required please charge Deposit Account 50-0510. Should any extensions of time be required, please consider this a petition thereof and charge Deposit Account 50-0510 the required fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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